



Course syllabus

Faculty of Technology

Department of Forestry and Wood Technology

4TS043 Aktionsforskning och interaktiva metoder, 7,5
högskolepoäng

Action Research and Interactive Methods, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Mechanical Engineering, Forest and Wood Engineering

Subject Group

Forest Science

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Technology 2014-12-02

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2015

Prerequisites

The course Methodology in Project Work 7.5 credits, and English B/English 6, or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing this course the student is expected to be able to:

- from a technical perspective describe and value interactive methods with respect to an innovation project
- plan the implementation of an interdisciplinary innovation project together with representatives from different businesses
- orally, in writing and visually communicate with representatives from different businesses
- reflect upon and assess the importance and consequences of choice of method, possibilities and limitations, its role in society and people's responsibilities for how it is being used
- identify a need for further knowledge
- make assessments from ethical and sustainability perspectives

Content

The course consists of:

- the theory of science
- an orientation in different traditions within interactive methodology and its applications

- interactive methods in an innovation process
- tools for communication and communication strategies
- aspects of validity, reliability, credibility, ethics and sustainability in research processes

Type of Instruction

The course consists of lectures, workshops and seminars based on the different perspectives presented by the participating disciplines.

The course is connected to the mandatory project work which is supported by supervisors from all disciplines. Some tasks are provided in cooperation with project organizations.

Obligatory parts are stated in the schedule.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades U,3,4 or 5.

Examination is carried out through a project report, individual reflection reports, oral presentation and active participation in discussion seminars.

On request, students may have their credits translated to ECTS-marks. Such a request must be sent to the examiner before the grading process starts.

Students who do not achieve a satisfactory result in the examinations are permitted to make a second attempt approximately 5-8 weeks after the normal examination date.

Course Evaluation

A written course evaluation is carried out and compiled in a report, which is archived at the faculty. The results and possible measures taken are communicated by the course coordinator and presented to the students the next time the course is given, or in another way deemed suitable by the course coordinator. Other types of course evaluations, for example regular evaluations throughout the course or discussions with students, will be included and encouraged with the aim of ensuring continuous quality development.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Antvik, S. & Sjöholm, H. *Project management and methods*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. 170 pages.

Björk, L. A. & Räisänen, C. *Academic writing: a university writing course*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. 399 pages.

Chalmers, A. F. *What is this thing called science?*. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub, cop. Latest edition. 316 pages.

Hannington, B. & Martin, B. *Universal Methods of Design - 100 Ways to Research Complex Problems, Develop Innovative Ideas, and Design Effective Solutions*. Rockport Publishers Inc. Latest edition. 208 pages.

McNiff, J. & Whitehead, J. *All you need to know about action research*. London: SAGE. Latest edition. 274 pages.

Merriam, S. B. *Qualitative research : a guide to design and implementation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. Latest edition. 304 pages.

van Aken, J., Berends, H. & van der Bij, H. *Problem solving in organizations*. New York: Cambridge university press. Latest edition. 245 pages.

Van Maanen, J. *Tales of the Field: On Writing Ethnography*. Chicago: University of

Chicago Press. Latest edition. 216 pages.